

Eastern Lexical Borrowings of the Semantic Field of Food in the English Language

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Abstract:

The article is devoted to the study of borrowings as a means of replenishing the vocabulary of the English language. The work is based on foreign words that came from eastern languages. There are quite a few direct eastern borrowings recorded in English dictionaries. These circumstances, as well as the growing interest throughout the world in Asian countries, determined the relevance of the study. The percentage of foreign language vocabulary in English is much higher than in many other languages. This is due to the fact that throughout the history of their existence, the English people expanded their connections through numerous wars and the achievement of political, economic, and cultural contacts with other peoples.

Keywords: borrowings, semantic field of food, Romance languages, English, word, form, meaning.

Introduction

According to UNESCO, today there are about seven thousand languages in the world, among which there are languages that influence the vocabulary of others. And languages of eastern origin are gaining increasing influence among them. In connection with increasing contacts between states, there is a need to introduce new concepts and phenomena into the vocabulary. Such methods of replenishing vocabulary are associated with various discoveries in a particular field of science and technology or with the aim of identifying the realities of a foreign culture.

The main part

The problem of borrowing has been dealt with for a long time. For example, Walachfrid Strabo (808/809-849) discussed the borrowing of words from one language to another [9]. Dictionaries of various authors give different interpretations of the concept of “borrowing”. Thus, L.P. Krysin writes, “borrowing is the process of moving various elements from one language to another” [5,

24]. The Encyclopedic Dictionary-Reference Book of Linguistic Terms and Concepts gives the following interpretation: “1. The process of the entry of foreign language elements into a particular language to express new concepts, realities or further differentiation of original polysemantic words as a result of language contacts. 2. Language constructions, models and units, mainly words entered into a given language as a result of borrowing: lexical borrowings” [10, 59].

The reasons for borrowing words are due to the following reasons:

1. The need to name new concepts and phenomena;
2. Distinguishing between two or more similar phenomena that have some differences in cultures and languages in general;
3. The need for specialization of concepts;
4. The need to designate an object as a whole, and not a combination of words;
5. Perception by native speakers of the recipient language of borrowings as something “scholarly, beautiful-sounding” [4; 8].

Usually words and less often syntactic and phraseological phrases are borrowed [6]. D. S. Lotte identifies the main reason for borrowing as the contradiction between the requirements for the accuracy of the term, on the one hand, and the requirements for their practical brevity, on the other [7, 39]. Intralinguistic and extralinguistic reasons are identified. The latter includes the intensification of economic, political and cultural ties with other countries, which is reflected in the vocabulary of the language [4, 58].

Borrowings often have a common source of origin, varying in languages, cf.: *форма* (Russian), *form* (English), *Form* (German), *forme* (French), derived from the Latin *forma* [3, 105].

Over time, all borrowings undergo changes in their structure. The degree of assimilation depends on how long ago the process of borrowing the word occurred. Therefore, phonetic, grammatical, lexical and orthographic types of assimilation are distinguished [2, 23]. Fully assimilated borrowings are not perceived by native speakers as foreign, for example, *travel*, *sport*. Few foreign words have retained the plural inflection of the original language and adopted the English one: *formulas* – *formulae*, *indexes* – *indices* [1].

English in the modern world is considered the greatest and richest language of international communication. Of the rich arsenal of vocabulary of the modern English language, only 30% of words belong to its own vocabulary. The English language borrowed the rest of its vocabulary from other languages of the world. About 53-55% of the vocabulary of modern English is words of Romance origin, which is associated with the Norman conquest of the British Isles in 1066 and their dominance in this country for three centuries.

The remaining 15-17% of English words are borrowed from other languages of the world, including oriental languages.

This article will characterize English words borrowed from oriental languages that are semantically related to the concept of food.

Hundreds of words have been borrowed from Arabic, although few of them came directly. Since, due to the lack of direct contact with Arabic-speaking countries, many borrowings passed through intermediary languages, for the most part they penetrated into the English language, disguised as French, Spanish, Italian and Latin words. During the Middle Ages, Arabic words entered the English language mainly through French. The reason for this is that French was the language of the English court, nobility and parliament for 300 years after the Norman Conquest of 1066 and

remained the language of English law until 1731. But a number of Arabic words in English were borrowed through Persian, Turkish and from Urdu, one of the main languages of India.

In modern English, the borrowed word “Sherbet” is used, which is an original Arabic word. Refers to a drink made from fruit juice, to which sugar is sometimes added.

The word *alcohol*, used in English as a noun, entered the English language through French, and the French, in turn, borrowed this word from Latin. This lexical unit is a native Arabic word. In this word, “*al-*” is the definite article of the Arabic language; *kuhl* is a noun denoting dryness, sterility. In English, it refers to a colorless, intoxicating liquid found in beer, wine, spirits and other alcoholic beverages.

The word apricot is used as a noun in English. This word is considered to be borrowed by the British from the Portuguese language. In Arabic it sounds “*al-barkuk*”. In English, this word is used in three meanings: 1) juicy fruit with a pit, apricot; 2) apricot tree; 3) apricot color, that is, the pinkish-yellow color of ripe fruit.

One of the most famous Arabisms throughout the world that has passed into English is the word “*coffee*”, which in Arabic sounds “*qahwa*”. It penetrated into the vocabulary of the English language through the Turkic language. This word is used in modern English in four meanings: 1) a drink made from fried or ground cocoa beans; 2) beans of an evergreen shrub tree that grows in the tropics or subtropics; 3) a legume tree that produces coffee beans in the form of grains; 4) light brown color. It should be noted that the words *artichoke*, *lemon*, *lime*, *syrup* are also of Arabic origin.

The English word *spinach* is a Persian-Tajik loanword. This Persian-Tajik word was borrowed into English through Arabic, Spanish and Old French. In English, this word refers to a plant whose leaves are used as a vegetable.

The Persian-Tajik word “*juleb*” is also used in modern English. This word passed from Persian into Arabic, from Arabic into Latin, from Latin this word penetrated into Old French, from which Middle English borrowed it. The Tajik word “*gulob*”, in its centuries-long journey from Persian to English, has significantly changed its sound and spelling. However, the original meaning of this word remains unchanged. In Persian, this lexical unit was formed from two roots: [gul] + [a:b], which means “*rose water*”. It means a sweet drink that is medicinal and used as a mild stimulant. In English, this word has acquired another meaning - a mixture of cognac or alcohol mixture with sugar, ice and some kind of flavoring.

The English vocabulary includes the words *pistachio* - *pistachios*, *biryani* - *meat dishes*, *samosa* - *type of food*: *sambusa*, *kofta* - *meat dish*: *kufte*; *meatballs*, *kebab* - *kebab*, *shish kebab* and other words of this semantics.

In modern English the word sugar functions. This unit comes from the Sanskrit word “*śarkara*”. In the Prakrit language it had the same form, with the only difference being that the final sound was short. From this language the word “*śarcara*” penetrated into the Persian language, in which it has the form “*shakar*”, which is also observed in the modern Tajik language. The Arabs borrowed it from the Persian-Tajik language in the form “*sukkar*”. From Arabic it passed into Latin in the form “*succarum*” or “*succharum*”. The Italians borrowed this word from Latin in the form “*zucchero*”. From Latin, the Sanskrit word “*śarcara*” passed through four languages into Old French in the form “*sukere*”. The English, obviously, during the years of Norman rule in England (XI-XIII centuries), borrowed this word in the form “*sugar*” from Old French.

In modern English the word “*orange*” is found. This word goes back to the Sanskrit *nāraṅga*, which passed into the Persian language in the form “*nārang*”. The Arabs borrowed this word from the Persian language in the form “*nāranj*”. In the Old French period, the French borrowed this word

from Arabic in the form “orenge”. In turn, in the Middle English period, this word “orenge”, borrowed from Old French, penetrated into the English language, where it slightly changed its pronunciation and spelling. In modern English it is used in seven meanings:

- 1) A large round citrus fruit consisting of parts covered with a red-yellow peel;
- 2) The tree that bears this fruit;
- 3) 10 pound coin;
- 4) In the color value between red and yellow;
- 5) A variety of apple or pear tree with reddish-yellow flowers;
- 6) As a qualifying word to designate various trees that are similar to the orange tree in color and fruit;
- 7) Soft soft drink with orange juice or flavor.

In modern English, the word aubergine is used, which goes back to Sanskrit, where it sounded like “vātingana”. From Sanskrit this word passed into the Persian language, in which it has two sound variants - bādingān or bādinjān [1, 146]. It was borrowed from the Persian language by the Arabs, who added the definite article “al-“ to the Persian base. As a result, it received the form “al-bādinjan”. From Arabic, this word passed into the Catalan dialect of French, in which it sounds like “alberginia”. The English borrowed this word from the French language. In modern English it is used both as a noun and as an adjective. As a noun, it denotes a vegetable garden plant that produces a purple fruit. As an adjective, it denotes the name of a color, similar to the color of eggplant.

Words of Chinese origin were first recorded in English at the beginning of the 17th century. [15]. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), where Marxism and Maoism are the fundamental ideologies, contact with Western countries has increased, as has the number of Chinese borrowings. G. Cannon pointed out the presence of 979 English words of Chinese origin [11].

Among Chinese borrowings, the vocabulary of tea varieties attracts special attention: bohea (a black China tea that comes from the last crop of the season and is usually regarded as of low quality), pekoe (a high-quality black tea made from young leaves), congou (a kind of black tea from China), souchong (a black tea with large leaves), hyson (a type of green China tea), pu-erh (any of several varieties of tea from the Yunnan province of China that are aged and fermented to produce a strong, earthy flavour), oolong (a kind of dark-coloured China tea made by fermenting the withered leaves to about half the degree usual for black teas).

Food: galingale (an Asian plant of the ginger family, the aromatic rhizome of which is widely used in cooking and herbal medicine), litchi (a small rounded fruit with sweet white scented flesh, a large central stone, and a thin rough skin), loquat (a small yellow egg-shaped acidic fruit), ketchup (a smooth sauce made chiefly from tomatoes and vinegar, used as a relish), wampee (an Asian tree, *Clausena wampi*, and its fruit). dim sum (Chinese dish of small steamed or fried savoury dumplings containing various fillings), jiaozi (a crescent-shaped dumpling of thin pastry dough, stuffed with a finely minced paste (typically made of pork, cabbage, and garlic chives), and steam-fried, deep-fried, grilled, or boiled);

Japanese borrowings share second place with Spanish ones in terms of the number of borrowings in the English language [12]. Thus, the first recorded word of Japanese origin, kuge (a Japanese courtnoble), appeared in 1577 [17]. An increase in borrowing has been observed since the second half of the 19th century, especially after the signing of the Treaty of Kanagawa (1854) [16]. Thus, we have identified the most common areas of human daily life:

Food: sushi (a Japanese dish of rice with sweet vinegar, often served with raw fish), fugu (any of various marine pufferfish, eaten as a delicacy in Japan once certain poisonous and potentially lethal parts have been removed), yakitori (a Japanese dish consisting of small pieces of chicken skewered and grilled), ramen (a Japanese dish consisting of a clear broth containing thin white noodles and sometimes vegetables, meat, etc), miso (a thick brown salty paste made from soya beans, used to flavour savoury dishes, esp. soups), oshibori (a small dampened towel for wiping the hands and face before eating), bento (a lacquered or decorated wooden Japanese lunch box), sushiya [23];

Interest in the Korean language began to grow with the advent of Korean popular culture or k-pop. Korean TV series, Korean contemporary music and dance, and food are especially popular among young people. There are significantly fewer Korean borrowings, because for a long time, Korea was under the protection of either China or Japan.

The first word that came into English from Korean was registered in 1898 in the Oxford Dictionary - kimchi (a Korean dish of spicy pickled cabbage) [20].

Areas of borrowing of Korean words include:

food and alcoholic drinks: kimchi, jeon (simple flat cakes of vegetables, fish or meat coated with a flour and egg batter and pan fried), bibimbap (a Korean dish consisting of rice topped with sautéed vegetables, chilli paste, and beef or other meat, sometimes with the addition of a raw or fried egg), bulgogi (beef marinated in soy sauce. often barbecued on a grill, sometimes in restaurants at the table), kalbi (beef spare ribs often marinated in soy sauce based marinade), gochujang (red chili paste is a savory, sweet, and spicy fermented condiment made from chili powder, glutinous rice, powder and salt), makkoli (a type of Korean rice wine. Alcohol content is generally around 4–6%), soju (a Korean alcoholic drink typically made from rice or sweet potatoes);

Thus, the English language enriched its vocabulary not only with words borrowed from Romance languages, in particular from Latin and French, during the three-century reign of the Normans in England, but also with words from other European languages (Italian, French, Danish, Spanish, Portuguese) as well as from Arabic, Persian or Sanskrit. The indicated borrowings from the last three languages belong to the category of nouns denoting types of food. In some cases, these substantive words, undergoing conversion, are also used to denote the concept of a feature of an object.

Words from Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic have undergone sound changes to a greater or lesser extent, which is obviously connected with the phonetic patterns of English and other languages, through which these words passed from the three eastern languages into English. However, their meanings have remained almost unchanged, although there are isolated cases of expansion or narrowing of their original semantics. Some of these words have become widespread in various languages of the world.

Conclusion

The main reason for the penetration of the considered words into English and other languages of the world is, obviously, the lack of denotations of these words among other peoples at the time of their borrowing. Another reason is the trade and economic ties of the peoples of Western Europe with eastern countries such as India, Iran and Arabia. Obviously, these words at the initial stage of their penetration into other languages were exoticisms for them.

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